

## **IN THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. An identifier indicating the status of each claim is provided.

### **Listing of Claims**

1. (currently amended) A recording apparatus for compression-encoding a digital video signal, generating a bit stream having a hierarchical structure composed of a plurality of hierarchical levels, and recording the bit stream to a record medium, comprising:
  - encoding means for intra-frame encoding all the digital video signal so as to compress the digital video signal;
  - adding means for adding a header of the highest hierarchical level to the bit stream of each frame;
  - ~~interpolating means for interpolating the header of the highest hierarchical level;~~
  - determining means for determining whether the header of the highest hierarchical level is absent or an inconsistency of encoding syntax takes place;
  - storing means for storing the latest header of the highest hierarchical level, and
  - wherein when the determined result of said determining means represents that, the header of the highest hierarchical level is absent or abnormal, said adding means adds the latest header of the highest hierarchical level stored in said storing means to the bit stream of each frame; and
  - recording means for recording the bit stream to which the header of the highest hierarchical level has been added to the record medium.

2. (canceled)

3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) ~~The recording apparatus as set forth in claim 1.~~ A recording apparatus for compression-encoding a digital video signal, generating a bit stream having a hierarchical structure composed of a plurality of hierarchical levels, and recording the bit stream to a record medium, comprising:

encoding means for intra-frame encoding all the digital video signal so as to compress the digital video signal;

adding means for adding a header of the highest hierarchical level to the bit stream of each frame;

~~wherein said interpolating means comprises:~~

determining means for determining whether the header of the highest hierarchical level is absent or abnormal; and

storing means for storing a prepared header of the highest hierarchical level, and wherein when the determined result of said determining means represents that the header of the highest hierarchical level is absent or an inconsistent of encoding syntax takes place, said adding means adds the prepared header of the highest hierarchical level stored in said storing means to ~~the~~ the bit stream of each frame.

5. (currently amended) A recording apparatus for compression-encoding a digital video signal, generating a bit stream having a hierarchical structure composed of a plurality of hierarchical levels and recording the bit stream to a record medium, comprising:

encoding means for intra-frame encoding all the digital video signal so as to compress the digital video signal;

adding means for adding a quantizing matrix to the bit stream of each frame;

~~interpolating means for interpolating the header of the highest hierarchical level;~~

and

determining means for determining whether the quantizing matrix is absent or abnormal;

storing means for storing the latest quantizing matrix,

wherein when the determined result of said determining means represents that the quantizing matrix is absent or abnormal, said adding means adds the latest quantizing matrix stored in said storing means to the bit stream of each frame; and

recording means for recording the bit stream to which the quantizing matrix has been added to the record medium.

6. (canceled)

7. (canceled)

8. (currently amended) ~~The recording apparatus as set forth in claim 5;~~ A recording apparatus for compression-encoding a digital video signal, generating a bit stream having a

hierarchical structure composed of a plurality of hierarchical levels and recording the bit stream  
to a record medium, comprising:

encoding means for intra-frame encoding all the digital video signal so as to  
compress the digital video signal;

adding means for adding a quantizing matrix to the bit stream of each frame;

~~wherein said interpolating means comprises:~~

determining means for determining whether the quantizing matrix is absent or  
abnormal; and

storing means for storing a prepared quantizing matrix, and

wherein when the determined result of said determining means represents that the  
quantizing matrix is absent or abnormal, said adding means adds the prepared quantizing matrix  
stored in said storing means to the bit stream of each frame.

9.-16. (canceled)

17. (Previously Presented) The recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the  
record medium comprises a tape-shaped record medium.

18. (Previously Presented) The recording apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the  
record medium comprises a tape-shaped record medium.